





## **Introduction**

Position papers are not mere formalities; they are essential tools that showcase a delegate's depth of research, strategic thinking, and diplomatic abilities. In the context of the COMUN conference, these papers stand as the foundation upon which delegates can build their arguments, engage in discussion, and are required to earn awards for their contributions. In this brief exploration, we delve into the significance of position papers and how delegates can begin formatting and writing them.

## **What is a Position Paper?**

A position paper in Model United Nations (MUN) conferences is a concise document that outlines a delegate's stance on a specific topic or issue being discussed within a committee. It serves as a formal representation of a country's or delegate's perspective, detailing their proposed solutions, policies, and objectives related to the assigned topic. Position papers provide delegates with an opportunity to showcase their research, understanding of international relations, and diplomatic skills while contributing to productive debate and negotiation during the conference.

## **Submitting Position Papers**

Position papers for the Model UN conference must be submitted punctually by midnight on October 7th, 2023. To ensure a smooth submission process, save your completed position paper as a file using the format "last name, first name" and send it as an attachment in an email to your committee's designated email address. In the subject line of your email, use the same format as the file name: "last name, first name — Position Paper." Keep in mind that each position paper will be reviewed and are

necessary to win awards.



## **Formatting**

Formatting a position paper in Model United Nations conferences is a critical aspect of the document's overall effectiveness.

Each position paper should be limited to one page per topic under discussion.

Include a single Works Cited or Bibliography section at the end of the paper. This section can vary in length based on your sources but should use MLA formatting for citations.

The paper should be in Times New Roman font, 12-point size, and single-spaced. Microsoft Word or PDF files are both accepted for submission.

## **Crisis Position Paper**

Crafting a crisis position paper in Model United Nations requires a unique approach. Unlike traditional position papers, crisis papers demand dynamic thinking and adaptability. Start with a concise summary of your character's background and objectives. As crises can unfold unpredictably, emphasize your character's responsiveness to evolving situations. Maintain a clear and persuasive writing style, blending historical context with contemporary urgency. Utilize vivid and engaging language to convey your character's voice and decisions effectively. Stay vigilant for crisis updates during the conference and be prepared to pivot your position as events evolve. A well-structured and responsive crisis position paper is the key to navigating the ever-changing landscape of crisis committees in Model UN.



## Example Position Paper

Delegation: Russia

Committee: Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Committee

Name: Dilara Priyankarage

Topic: Uyghur Disenfranchisement

The Russian Federation, committed to the principles of sovereignty and non-interference, welcomes the opportunity to address the pressing issue of Uyghur disenfranchisement in the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee. This multifaceted matter necessitates a comprehensive and collaborative approach to ensure the protection of human rights while respecting the principles of international relations.

Russia acknowledges that concerns regarding human rights abuses demand our attention and scrutiny. We are deeply committed to the protection of human rights and support the international community's efforts to address such issues effectively. At the same time, we firmly believe that it is essential to approach this matter with the utmost sensitivity to the principle of non-interference in a sovereign nation's domestic affairs.

Regarding the specific issue of Uyghur disenfranchisement in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China, Russia recognizes that there are differing accounts and perspectives on the situation. We urge the international community to rely on objective and credible sources of information when assessing the situation on the ground. While there may be areas of concern, we emphasize that the primary responsibility for addressing these issues lies with the Chinese government.

Russia firmly believes in diplomacy as the primary avenue for resolving international disputes. We encourage all parties involved to engage in meaningful dialogue to address any existing concerns related to Uyghur disenfranchisement. The Russian Federation commends China for its efforts to combat extremism and terrorism, which are global challenges that require international cooperation. We encourage the international community to support China in its endeavors to ensure security and stability in the Xinjiang region.

Moreover, Russia underscores the importance of respecting the principles of national sovereignty and territorial integrity. We categorically reject any external interference in China's internal affairs, including attempts to politicize the issue of Uyghur disenfranchisement. Such actions not only undermine the sovereignty of a nation but can also hinder the prospects for constructive dialogue and cooperation.

In conclusion, the Russian Federation believes that engagement through diplomatic channels, open dialogue, and collaboration offers the best path forward for addressing concerns related to Uyghur disenfranchisement. We call upon all nations to respect the principles of sovereignty, non-interference, and the territorial integrity of nations as enshrined in the United Nations Charter. It is through such principles that lasting solutions to complex issues can be achieved. Russia remains steadfast in its commitment to working collaboratively with the international community to ensure a peaceful and prosperous future for all.



## Example Position Paper

Cabinet Crisis Committee  
Crisis: The American Revolution  
Representing: Timothy Pickering  
Delegate: Sara Ye

During the late 1760s, significant events unfolded in the American colonies, shaping their future. The Tea Act's enactment and the subsequent response to the Boston Tea Party reminded the colonists of the British Empire's oppressive policies. In this atmosphere of discontent and unrest, Timothy Pickering emerged as a prominent figure. Initially a loyalist, Pickering's perspective gradually shifted towards advocating for American independence in the 1770s. Guided by his non-confrontational and conservative nature, Pickering firmly believes in the equitable sharing of power and defense, rather than concentrating it in the hands of a privileged few.

Representing Timothy Pickering, I will strongly utilize the conflict between loyalty and the pursuit of independence and how that may have shaped his past actions and stance regarding the American Revolution. Pickering recognizes the futility of negotiation with the British Empire, given their persistent imposition of taxes and demonstrated oppressive behavior. Therefore, he firmly believes that time is better spent focusing on the path of independence rather than engaging in unproductive negotiations. In terms of his stance, Pickering advocated for the equitable distribution of military power across the colonies. He emphasizes the values of fairness, equality, and democracy that define the American cause. By adopting a decentralized yet coordinated approach, where military strength is shared evenly across the bloc, Pickering aims to safeguard against the concentration of power in the hands of a few.

Timothy Pickering's potential solutions and stance in the American Revolution are multifaceted. Firstly, he recognizes the power of propaganda as a tool for shaping public opinion. Utilizing propaganda, Pickering aims to tarnish the British Empire's reputation, demoralize the enemy forces, and weaken support for the monarchy. Additionally, he emphasizes the importance of strategic military decision making, including leveraging knowledge of terrain for tactical advantages. Furthermore, training and equipping troops with guerrilla warfare skills and ambush techniques are key to achieving military success. Ultimately, Pickering envisions a comprehensive approach that combines propaganda, strategic military decisions, and effective troop training in the fight for American independence.

In addition to the aforementioned points, Timothy Pickering will propose the creation of a non-military bloc comprising politicians, finance professionals, and other non-combat personnel. By redistributing military power and involving individuals with diverse expertise, Pickering aims to foster cooperation and collaboration among different factions. Sharing power across the bloc necessitates dialogue, negotiation, and compromise, creating an environment conducive to effective resistance against British rule. This approach emphasizes the values of fairness, equality, and democracy in the pursuit of American independence.

In conclusion, Timothy Pickering's stance in the American Revolution centers around the pursuit of independence and the equitable distribution of power. He recognizes the futility of negotiation with the British Empire and emphasizes proactive approaches such as expanding territorial control and redistributing military power. With a focus on utilizing propaganda, making strategic military decisions, and prioritizing troop training, Pickering envisions a path towards securing American independence while upholding values of fairness and

equality.